On May 22, the Credentialing Committee attended an educational seminar hosted by Medical Executive Committee. Dr. Tarantino spoke during this four hour program on “What Every Medical Staff Leader Needs to Know about Credentialing and Privileging”. Attendees benefited from Dr. Tarantino’s case review examples, and an involved question and answer session, as well as strategies for dealing with challenging credentialing and privileging issues.

The seminars were very well attended and provided a lively debate and numerous questions. The numeric evaluation for this CME accredited seminar reflected a high quality with an average score of 4.57 for the MEC session and 4.9 for the Credentialing session, meaning that the overall score was good to outstanding.

In the comment section of the credentialing portion of the seminar the consensus was that the session was felt to be both very informative and practical. For those charged with the responsibility of reviewing our medical staff applicants, the detailed lecture provided and the discussion that followed was very helpful and concise.

Our challenging task now is to take this valuable information and helpful tips back to MEC for further discussion, analysis and appropriate implementation. An update on this will follow.

**Greeley Topics**

1. What we are doing in health care is not sustainable – will you be part of the problem or part of the solution?

2. Good fences make good neighbors – understanding the roles and responsibilities of the board, medical staff and management.

3. Effective Medical Staff or obsolete Medical Staff
   - how can physicians hold each other accountable
   - the power of the pyramid: how to achieve great physicians performance

**DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR MEC?**

mailto:askmec@upstate.edu
I-STOP

I-Stop – The New York State Prescription Monitoring Program: “What prescribers need to know”

Effective August 27th, 2013, New York State Public Health Law requires every practitioner (or their designee) to consult the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) system (with few exceptions) before prescribing any controlled substance listed as a Schedule II, III, or IV. By linking with pharmacy systems, this program provides for “real time” tracking of controlled substance prescriptions and allows practitioners and pharmacists to better evaluate a patient’s treatment as it pertains to controlled substance prescribing and dispensing. Prescribers will have a duty to consult the database prior to prescribing Schedule II, III, and IV medicines. The potential for fines are likely to be in place for prescribers who do not comply with this requirement, although this will not occur initially and specific details have not been provided. Prescribers may delegate the responsibility to consult the database to a member of their office staff but the prescriber remains ultimately responsible for the confidentiality of information. The requirement to access the registry will not apply to the ordering of controlled substances for administration within institutions or ambulatory clinics. Furthermore, when controlled substance prescriptions are written in emergency departments, prescribers will be exempt from the duty to consult the registry if no more than a five day supply is prescribed. Prescribers may still consult the registry per their discretion despite these exemptions.

To access the registry, each prescriber needs to establish an account with the health commerce system if you don’t already have one. To do so, visit the following website: https://hcsteamwork1.health.state.ny.us/pub/top.html and click on “Apply” for an HCS Medical Professions account. You will need to enter the necessary information and submit your application. Once your new account is established (usually within 2 weeks) you will be emailed an account request form that must be printed, reviewed, signed, notarized, and returned to the address listed on the form. Unlicensed medical staff (which includes medical residents, limited permit physicians, medical assistants, pharmacy interns, and administrative staff) will need to acquire their own login but will need to be added as a designee of a licensed professional.

Once your account is established, healthcare professionals can visit the health commerce website at https://commerce.health.state.ny.us and enter your username and password. After entering the prescription monitoring program registry, the patient’s information and the prescriber’s DEA number will need to be entered. A report will then be created that shows schedule II, III, or IV medications that have be dispensed to that patient.

For further information or questions about the Prescription Monitoring Program Registry and setting up an account, you can visit http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/narcotic or call 1-866-811-7957. Training materials are also being created for review on Blackboard.
Good to Know!

Medicare is advancing the "Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS)" Competitive Bidding program to cover the central NY region effective 7/1/13.

All DME vendors were required to bid nationally to be accepted as a Straight/Traditional Medicare provider for the following equipment types: **oxygen/supplies, CPAP and respiratory assist devices, Enteral nutrients/supplies, standard and complex powered wheelchairs, hospital beds, mattresses, walkers.**

A new **Diabetic mail order supply program** was also added to the current resources available for these supplies.

Only those vendors accepted can go forward with providing these supplies to Medicare subscribers. This does not effect managed Medicare/Advantage insurance products that already have preferred provider networks required. Many of our local/regional vendors were not accepted into this new Medicare program.

Patients will need to choose vendor options based on the zip code they have registered with Social Security, not where they are currently receiving care.

The website below, will bring you to the Medicare search tool for locating which vendors are certified to provide services in each DME category, and in which zip code.

Additional information can also be obtained from calling:  1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227)

Welcome New Medical Staff & Advanced Practice Clinicians!

- **Matthew D’Haenens, MD**  Anesthesiology  Ada Obidike, MD  Medicine
- **Jeremy McKay, MD**  Anesthesiology  Isabel Yonge, NP  Medicine
- **Bethany Taylor, CRNA**  Anesthesiology  Farook Kidwai, MBBS  Neurosurgery
- **Danielle Cunningham, DDS**  Dental Surgery  Rinki Agarwal, MD  OB/GYN
- **Patrick Adcock, MD**  Emergency Medicine  Ryan Winters, MD  Otolaryngology
- **Carl Barus, MD**  Emergency Medicine  Christopher Curtiss, MD  Pathology
- **Joshua Mularella, DO**  Emergency Medicine  Robert Nastasi, MD  Psychiatry
- **Nicholas Nacca, MD**  Emergency Medicine  Marissa Mincolla, MD  Radiology
MEC MEMBERS

Bettina Smallman, MD; Medical Staff President, Chair, Medical Executive Committee (Pediatric Anesthesiology)

Mitchell Brodey, MD; Medical Staff Vice-President (Medicine)

Robert Kellman, MD; Medical Staff Vice-President (Otolaryngology)

Satish Krishnamurthy, MD; Medical Staff Treasurer (Neurosurgery)

Colleen E. O’Leary, MD; Medical Staff Past President (Anesthesiology)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Sharon Brangman, MD; (Medicine)

Tamer Ahmed, MD; (Pediatric Surgery)

Timothy Creamer, MD; (Medicine)

David Halleran, MD; (Colo-rectal Surgery)

Leslie Kohman, MD; (Thoracic Surgery)

Kara Kort, MD; (Surgery)

Guillermo Quetell, MD; (Plastic Surgery)

Irene Sills, MD; (Pediatric Endocrinology)

Mike Sun, MD; (Orthopedic Surgery)

Zulma Tovar-Spinoza, MD; (Neurosurgery)

EX-OFFICO, NON VOTING MEMBERS

Beth Erwin, CPCS, CPMSM; Director, Medical Staff Services

William Grant, EDD; Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education

Bonnie Grossman, MD; Associate Medical Director (Emergency Medicine)

Sarah Fries, NP; Associate Director of Nursing for Advanced Practice Services

John McCabe, MD; Chief Executive Officer (Emergency Medicine)

Regina McGraw, JD; Senior Managing Counsel

Katie Mooney, RN, MS, NEA-BC; Chief Nursing Officer

Meredith Price; Chief Administrative Officer, Upstate University Hospital at Community General

Paul Seale, FACHE; Chief Operating Officer

David Smith, MD; President, SUNY Upstate Medical University (Pediatrics)

AD HOC, NON VOTING MEMBERS

Robert Carhart, MD; Chair, Credentials Committee (Medicine)

David Duggan, MD; Medical Director and Dean, College of Medicine, SUNY Upstate Medical University; (Medicine)

Louise Prince, MD; Chair, CQI Committee & Chief Quality Officer (Emergency Medicine)

Do you have information that you think the Medical Staff needs to know about? If so, please contact us at mailto:askmec@upstate.edu